



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

Wayne F. MacCallum, *Director*

October 18, 2013

Dear Educator,

As the Massachusetts Junior Duck Stamp (JDS) coordinator, I strive each year to reach out to K-12 students in public, private or home schools, scouts, and community after school programs across the Commonwealth and encourage them to learn about wetlands & waterfowl conservation and to express that knowledge, artistically, by submitting an entry to the Junior Duck Stamp "Conservation through the Arts" program (<http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck/>). Students will also become acquainted with one of the most successful wildlife restoration programs in the history of the nation...Duck Stamps!

The JDS Program, Connecting Children to Nature through Science and Art, has redesigned its arts and science curriculum to spark youth interest in habitat conservation through science, art, math and technology. Aimed at students in grades 5-8, with suggested adaptations for younger and older audiences, the curriculum encourages students to engage with their natural world and develop a deeper appreciation of natural resources. Students have an opportunity to increase their knowledge of waterfowl anatomy, adaptations, climate change, migration, habitats, field journaling, waterfowl painting techniques, and science and art process skills (observation, data gathering & interpretation, creative & critical thinking, problem solving, and artistic expression). You may download the curriculum at www.fws.gov/juniorduck/curriculum.html. A very limited number of hard copies &/or CD's of the curriculum are available by contacting Pam Landry at pam.landry@state.ma.us.

The culmination of the Duck Stamp unit should be students expressing what they have learned, artistically, through an entry to the statewide competition. In early April five professional artists with expertise in art, natural science, waterfowl, and habitat will judge the entries in the four categories: grades K-3, grades 4-6, grades 7-9 and grades 10-12. Every official entrant will receive a certificate of participation and additional prizes will be presented to the top 25 entrants in each age category at an awards ceremony.

A combination of the top 100 winning drawings will go on tour for a year to various venues across Massachusetts. The piece selected as Best of Show will represent the Commonwealth in a national competition and will then tour nationally with the Best of Show exhibit.

If your students are drawing from reference art, please make sure they understand the correct ways to use reference art taking note of the enclosed guidelines, provided by a successful commercial artist, on avoiding plagiarism. Please also become familiar with the guidelines of "Creating Original Artwork-The Junior Duck Stamp Program & Artistic Integrity" within the official JDS Conservation & Design Contest Entry Brochure at <http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck/ArtContest.htm>.

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www.mass.gov/masswildlife

Division of Fisheries and Wildlife

100 Hartwell Street, Suite 230, West Boylston, MA 01583 (508) 389-6300 Fax (508) 389-7890

An Agency of the Department of Fish and Game

Important Information
Please Read Carefully

- ♦ Read the official entry guidelines thoroughly to avoid disqualifications
- ♦ Only **one** entry per student
- ♦ Physical size of submitted artwork must be 9" x 12" horizontal
- ♦ A **completed** entry form, including signature of parent or guardian, must be securely attached to the back of each piece of art
- ♦ Each student is encouraged to write a short **conservation message** that expresses the spirit of what they as an individual have learned through classroom discussions, research and planning for their Junior Duck Stamp Contest entries. Conservation messages should be limited to the space provided on the entry form.
- ♦ Students in groups III & IV must submit a Reference Form (see official entry brochure) with their entry
- ♦ A typed list of students must be sent with the artwork
- ♦ Chalk & pastel entries must be sprayed with a fixative prior to submitting
- ♦ Please share this project with your superintendent, principal, colleagues (educators of science, art, language arts) & the student's family.
- ♦ For additional waterfowl information visit the *MassWildlife* website at www.masswildlife.org or Federal JDS website at www.fws.gov/juniorduck
- ♦ Junior Duck Stamps may be purchased from US Philatelic at 1-800-782-6724 or log on to <http://shop.usps.com> (key word junior duck stamp)

Artwork must be **postmarked by midnight March 15, 2014** and sent to:

Pam Landry
Junior Duck Stamp Program
MassWildlife
100 Hartwell Street, Suite 230
West Boylston, MA 01583

I am looking forward to receiving your students' artwork. Please help spread the word by sharing this information with others! Thank you for your interest in youth, art, conservation and the future!

Pam Landry, Education Coordinator
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Plagiarism Guidelines
Massachusetts Junior Duck Stamp Program

The Law

"Copyright is a form of protection provided by the laws of the United States (title 17, U.S. Code) to the authors of 'original works of authorship' including literary, dramatic, musical, artistic, and certain other intellectual works."¹ This protection includes authorship of photographs. When a photograph has been published it cannot be copied except with the express permission of the owner of the photograph. It is a violation of copyright law to prepare derivative works based upon the copyrighted work. It is also important to note that works do not have to bear the copyright symbol © to be protected. "Copyright is secured **automatically** when the work is created, and a work is 'created' when it is fixed in a copy or phonorecord for the first time." ² The copyright protection extends "from the moment of its creation, and is ordinarily given a term enduring for the author's life, plus an additional 50 years after the author's death"... "for anonymous and pseudonymous works (unless the author's identity is revealed in Copyright Office records), the duration of copyright will be 75 years from publication or 100 years from creation, whichever is shorter."³ Transfers of copyright are normally done through contract, that is, an artist or photographer may sell his copyright in various forms including first use, one-time use, limited use, or unrestricted use. It is then legal to use the work, but only under the terms of the contract.

Using Photographs as Reference for Works of Art

Most artists will freely admit that they use photographs as reference tools for their works of art. There are many unspoken "rules" about this usage, and there are many instances where well-known artists have violated copyright law, sometimes blatantly. Gallery owners and publishers of fine art will carefully avoid dealing with an artist who violates copyright law, so it is important to teach art students to resist getting into the habit of closely copying from someone else's photograph or work of art. *This may well be the single most important lesson that you can teach your art students.* Plagiarism is a habit that can ruin a promising career, and it is usually uncovered under the most embarrassing circumstances. These artists lose their status in the art "business world", and lose the respect of their peers.

Here are the guidelines as most professional artists practice them:

- ♦ **DO NOT** - copy someone else's photograph to create a work of art.
- ♦ **DO NOT** - copy a picture that has been printed in any form including book, magazine, etc.
- ♦ **DO NOT** - copy a major part of a photograph (an animal for instance) and place it in a different setting. This is a "grey" legal area, but it is considered unethical by most professional artists. If you have to search to find the difference between your work and the reference work you have gone WAY too far.

- ♦ **OK** - to copy your own photograph to create a work of art.
- ♦ **OK** - to buy the rights to use a photograph from the photographer, but remember that you **do not** obtain the right to copy someone's art or photograph by simply purchasing a book or magazine containing their images.
- ♦ **OK** - to copy works that have exceeded the time limits for copyright protection

¹ Copyright Basics. Circular 1, pg. 1. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC. 1995.

² Copyright Basics. Circular 1, pg. 3. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC. 1995.

³ Copyright Basics. Circular 1, pg. 6. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC. 1995.